

INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY Poland
SUBJECT Fifth Infantry Division

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1. The headquarters of the 5th Infantry Division was moved from Poznan to Gorzow Wielkopolski in 1949. For more than a year, a Soviet general commanded the division. A politruk with the rank of lieutenant colonel was assigned to the division in 1951, after completing a course at a higher political school in the Soviet Union.
2. The following units belong to the 5th Infantry Division:
 - a. The 13th Infantry Regiment, field post number JW-2462, which formerly was based at Poznan, is now at Miedzylesie (P 51/H 31). It is commanded by Major Jozef Hubert, a Pole who came from the Soviet Union with the Berling army. He is assisted by a politruk, Major Arachimowicz, a Polish Communist from the USSR.
 - b. The 15th Infantry regiment remains in Schwerin. It is commanded by Colonel Rubin, a Soviet officer.
 - c. The 17th Infantry Regiment, originally based at Gniezno, is now at Sulechow. It is commanded by Lt. Col. Michal Gorzutek.
 - d. The 22nd Field Artillery Regiment, formerly based at Miedzyrzecz and now at Sulechow, is commanded by Lt. Col. Jan Kordas, a young prewar Polish officer.
 - e. The 10th Engineer Battalion is located at Gorzow Wielkopolski, under the command of Major Edward Henzel, a young pre-war Polish officer.
 - f. The 7th Liaison Battalion is at Gorzow Wielkopolski.
3. Each infantry regiment is composed of two "line" or "front" battalions; one "school" battalion; one administration (kwaterymistrzostwo) group; two artillery batteries, one of which has four artillery guns and the other of which has eight 120 mm mortars and eight 15 mm antitank guns; one liaison platoon; one engineer platoon; one chemical warfare platoon; one reconnaissance platoon; one economic (sic, "gospodarczy") platoon.

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4. Formerly, new recruits were assigned to the various battalions, and after completion of basic training those with greater ability were selected for varying periods of specialized training. Now, candidates are selected from the ranks of untrained recruits for training courses conducted for artillerymen, engineers, NCO's, liaison, etc. These trainees are assigned to the third, or school, battalion, where they pass the basic training period; they then are given a special one-year course, after which they assume duties as instructors. The selection of recruits for the specialized training courses is made with the active help of the Communist Party and on the basis of their service in the SP (Sluzba Polsce).
5. During their course of training in the school battalion, some soldiers are disqualified, not for lack of ability, but for political reasons; they are sent to other battalions to complete their military service as ordinary soldiers. Selectees are seldom disqualified except for political reasons.
6. The 5th Infantry Division is equipped exclusively with Soviet-model arms which are manufactured in the arms factories located at Radom and Warsaw.

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